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urbane

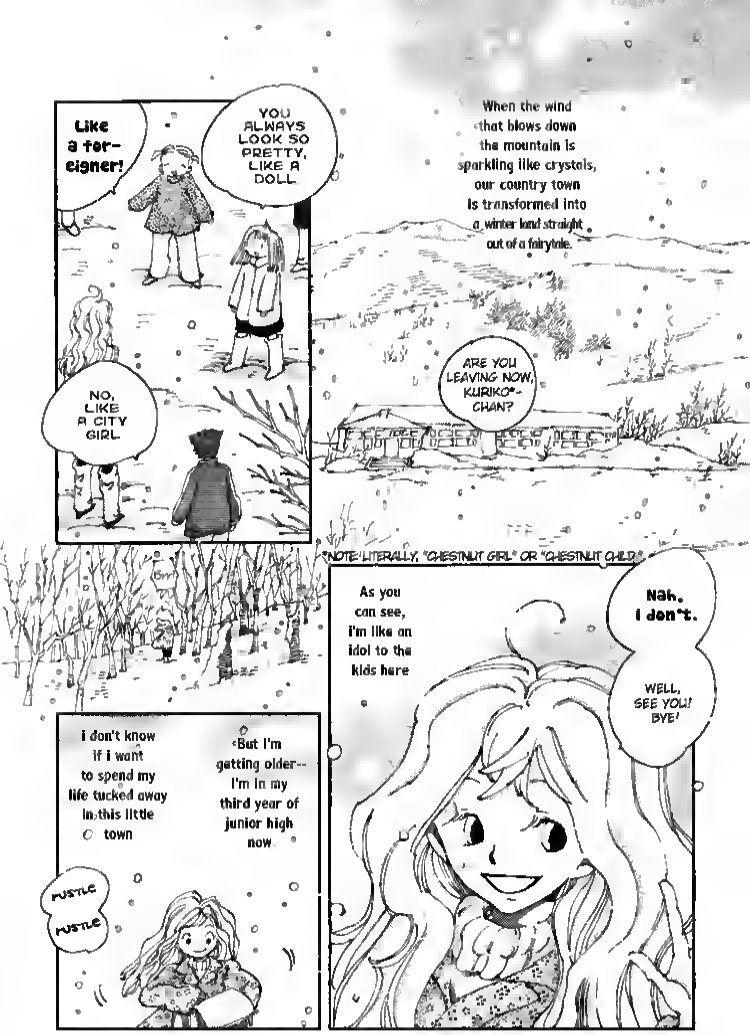
The Snow-Woman

An ultra-pure, lyrical romance between a cheerful country girl and a beauty from the city!!

YURI HIME DEBUT

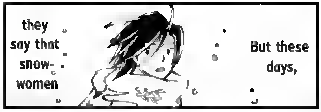
藤たまき

Tamaki Fuji


Like a for-eigner!
YOU ALWAYS LOOK SO PRETTY, LIKE A DOLL
NO, LIKE A CITY GIRL
When the wind that blows down the mountain is sparkling like crystals, our country town is transformed into a winter land straight out of a fairytale.
ARE YOU LEAVING NOW, KURIKO*-CHAN?
*NOTE: LITERALLY, "CHESTNUT GIRL" OR "CHESTNUT CHILD."
As you can see, I'm like an idol to the kids here
Nah, I don't.
WELL, SEE YOU! BYE!
I don't know if I want to spend my life tucked away in this little town
But I'm getting older-- I'm in my third year of junior high now
RUSTLE
RUSTLE

My big brother left for the city. The postcards he sends us,
of the night skyline with its harsh white lights, seem like something out of a dream.
at least we get the latest fashion mags even out here in the boon-docks.
Well,
I'D SAY THAT THIS ENVIRON-MENT IS GOOD FOR LOHAS* . I GUESS?
Sigh...
WELL, IF I HAD TO COMMENT ON IT,
*NOTE: LIFESTYLES OF HEALTH AND SUSTAINABILITY.
THERE'S NOTHING EXCITING HERE.
AND EVEN IF THERE WAS, ABOUT THE BEST WE'D GET OUT HERE
WOULD BE SOMETHING OUT OF A GHOST STORY.
Eek!

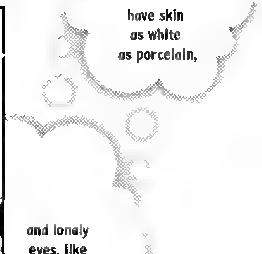
...Whoa!
The moment I said that,
a snow-woman appeared?!
AHHHH!


they say that snow-women
But these days,

seen one before
I've never

are absolutely, positively
freezing cold...

And their white finger-tips—


have skin as white as porcelain,
and lonely eyes, like city folk

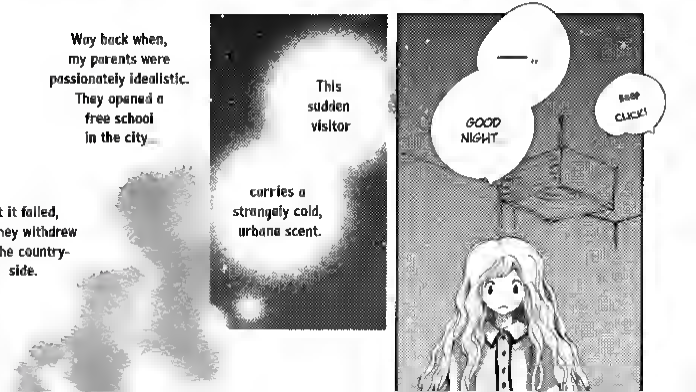
Wait a minute... Wait a minute!
!

AHHH-HHHH!
A SNOW-WOMAN!!
!
AHHH!
AHHH!
AHHH!
WOULD YOU CUT THAT OUT?
I'M NOT A SNOW-WOMAN.
!!
GASP
HUH .?
UM...
blush...
I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR SOMEONE TO PASS BY. I THINK I'D GET LOST ON MY OWN--
THERE AREN'T ANY LANDMARKS OUT HERE IN THE COUNTRY.
I'd stopped paying attention for a while.
and then everything was covered in white.
YOU'RE A LOCAL, AREN'T YOU?
STARE STARE
DO YOU KNOW IF THE YAMANO FREE SCHOOL IS SOME-WHERE AROUND HERE?
Y-... YES.
WHY DO YOU ASK?!
...!

*NOTE. LITERALLY, "DEEP SNOW."
I WISH WE COULD'VE COME PICK YOU UP...
BUT SEE, THE FAX IS ILLEGIBLE...
AND WE DIDN'T KNOW WHEN YOUR TRAIN WAS GETTING IN... UM...
KAMATA MI-... MIYUKI-SAN?
OH, SO YOU RAN INTO KURIKO!
AM I IMPOSING?
...YES, IT'S KAMATA
Oh, my friends have very nice hair.
WELL, IT'S SUCH AN ISOLATED AREA THAT WE DON'T HAVE MANY STUDENTS ANYMORE.
WE'RE MORE LIKE A NURSERY THESE DAYS
WE LEFT A MESSAGE TELLING YOUR PARENTS THAT-- WE WEREN'T SURE YOU'D EVEN STILL BE COMING.
SO, YOU'RE IN YOUR SECOND YEAR OF HIGH SCHOOL.
AND YOU'LL BE SPENDING THE WINTER HERE
NO, NOT AT ALL!
I'M GLAD TO HAVE SUCH A PRETTY GIRL COME STAY WITH US
SQUEE
SQUEE

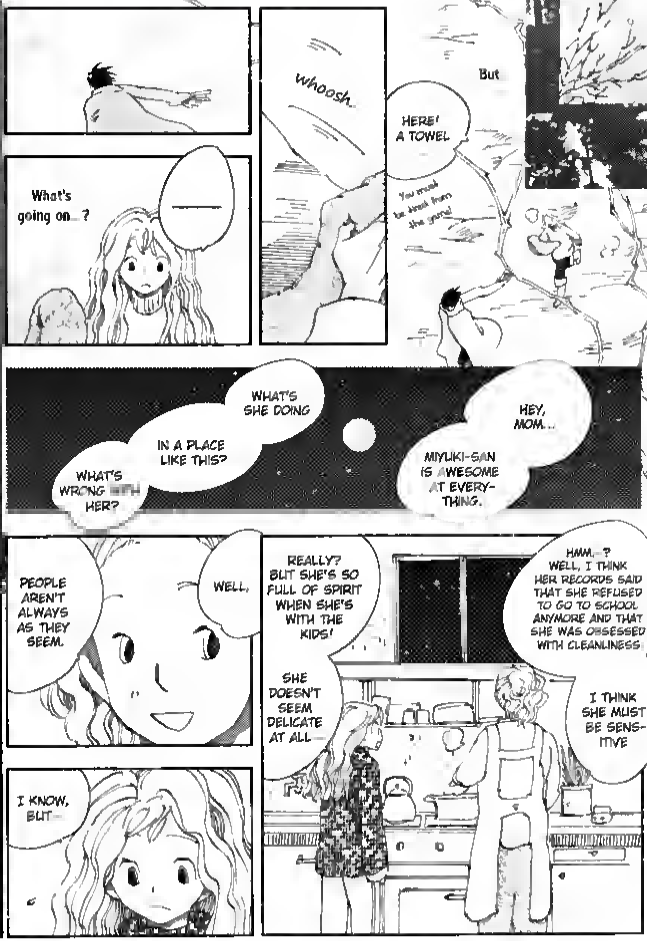
YOU'RE AN IDOL..?
KURIKO, SHE MIGHT STEAL YOUR COUNTRY IDOL THRONE!
Cut it out!
Wahahahahaha!
You see I like longish girls! Miyu-chan ♡
HUH..? NO
couch couch
NOT REALLY..
...I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO LIVE IN THE SNOW COUNTRY
I WANTED TO COME OUT HERE
THERE AREN'T ANY HASSLES HERE YOU KNOW?
I'M SORRY TO MAKE YOU SHARE A ROOM IN THIS DAY AND AGE
I'M CURIOUS ABOUT WHY YOU'D COME TO A FREE SCHOOL OUT IN THE COUNTRY, THOUGH...
WEREN'T THERE SCHOOLS IN THE CITY THAT WERE MORE ESTABLISHED?
WELL, YOU ARE CUTE
BUT I WOULD LIKE TO APOLOGIZE FOR SUDDENLY IMPOSING ON YOU LIKE THIS
IT MUST BE AN ANNOYANCE TO HAVE A FREELOADER LIKE ME HERE

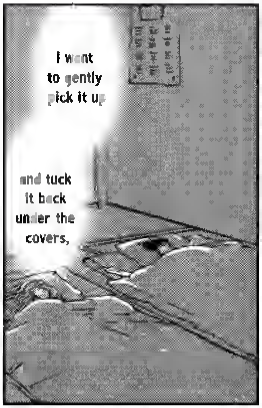
I GET HOT.
NO, I PREFER THIS.
HUH...? UM, NO PAJA-MAS...?
in fact...
Huh?! NO IT'S NO IM-POSITION!
i'm kind of happy to have her here...
FWUMP
NIGHT.
Is she the remote?
AREN'T YOU COLD--
HUH...? BUT

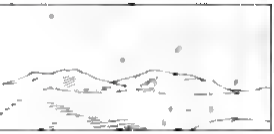

Way back when, my parents were passionately idealistic. They opened a free school in the city...
but it failed, and they withdrew to the country-side.
This sudden visitor
carries a strangely cold, urbane scent.
GOOD NIGHT.
—..
Snap CLICK!

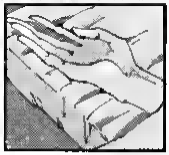
Maybe she can teach me about fashion
She's pretty.
and she might have some sort of weakness
If she's coming to a free school,
she must have some sort of problem
...
I... thought the snow country was lame and boring ..
but she helped me see
that it isn't
I can't believe
she always wanted to come here
Whoa, you're pretty!
YOU'RE SO COOL, MIYUKI-CHAN!
You're so tall! You look like a model!
but it might be hard...
I want to do something for her in return,

WOW! JUST WOW!
You're like a female Ronaldinho!
PUFFED UP
And as the days passed...
Whoa!
You're like a goddess!
AND YOU SMELL GOOD!
And thus, devotees are born
THUD
whoosh
whoosh
Uh-oh. I'm in serious trouble
—...
NOBODY FROM AROUND HERE IS GOOD AT BOTH SCHOOL AND SPORTS
WHISPER
WHISPER
WELL, KURIKO-CHAN'S ALWAYS SUCKED AT SPORTS. .
I can't even get the better of her in anything!
Forget repaying her--
I don't mind, though. I'm enjoying it, actually.
Shut up, you little brats!
BAP
BWP


What's going on...?
Whoosh...
But
HERE! A TOWEL
You must be tired from the game!
HEY, MOM...
MIYUKI-SAN IS AWESOME AT EVERYTHING.
WHAT'S SHE DOING IN A PLACE LIKE THIS?
WHAT'S WRONG WITH HER?
PEOPLE AREN'T ALWAYS AS THEY SEEM.
WELL,
I KNOW, BUT—
REALLY? BUT SHE'S SO FULL OF SPIRIT WHEN SHE'S WITH THE KIDS!
SHE DOESN'T SEEM DELICATE AT ALL—
HMM...? WELL, I THINK HER RECORDS SAID THAT SHE REFUSED TO GO TO SCHOOL ANYMORE AND THAT SHE WAS OBSESSED WITH CLEANLINESS.
I THINK SHE MUST BE SENSITIVE



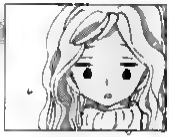


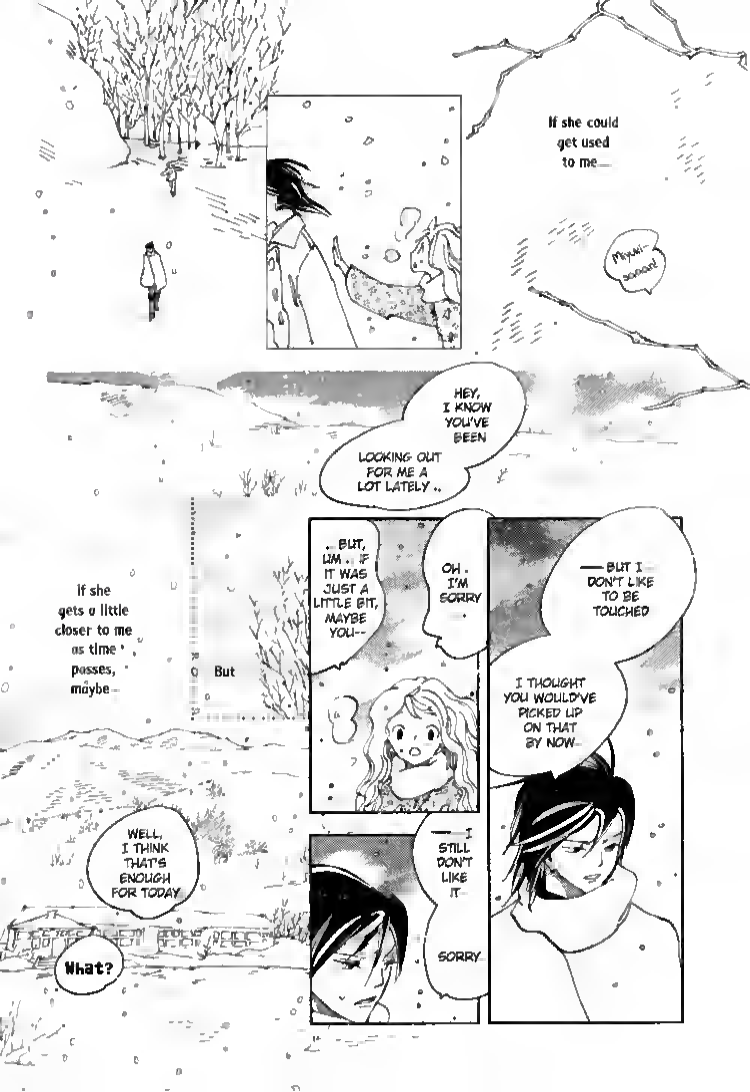


Her cold hands are wonderfully urbane...

The power of the snow country isn't enough

If she could get used to other things, little by little




If she could get used to me—
Pkyuu~ aaaan!
HEY, I KNOW YOU'VE BEEN LOOKING OUT FOR ME A LOT LATELY ..
—— BUT I DON'T LIKE TO BE TOUCHED
I THOUGHT YOU WOULD'VE PICKED UP ON THAT BY NOW—
OH . I'M SORRY
. BUT, UM . IF IT WAS JUST A LITTLE BIT, MAYBE YOU--
—— I STILL DON'T LIKE IT—
SORRY
If she gets a little closer to me as time passes, maybe—
But
WELL, I THINK THAT'S ENOUGH FOR TODAY.
What?

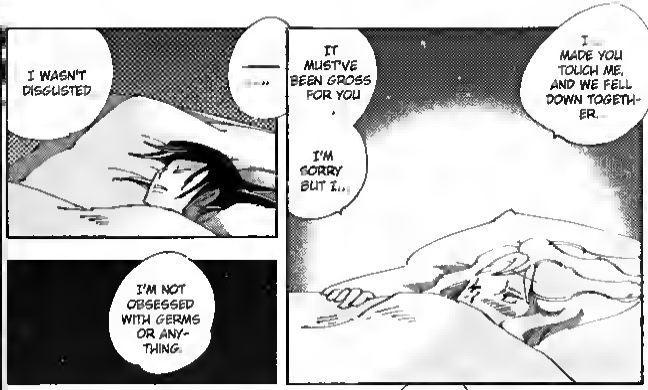
WHMP!
YEAH! C'MON, JUST A LITTLE MORE!
Hmph!
She's fine with the kids, so she should be okay with me, too, right...?
Uh, you can't go!
SQUEAL
JUST A LITTLE MORE!
!
PEOPLE HANG-ING ALL OVER ME!
I DON'T LIKE..
—..
ACK!
SM

IT'S YOUR FAULT, MIYUKI-CHAN...
POOR KURIKO-CHAN!
OH! KURIKO-CHAN!
TAP
TAP
TAP
...
KURIKO-CHAN!
WHIP!
HEY!
WAIT UP!
...I JUST DON'T LIKE TO BE TOUCHED,
AND YOU KEEP DOING IT.
IF YOU HATE ME SO MUCH,
WHY DON'T YOU JUST GO BACK TO THE CITY?!
'CAUSE

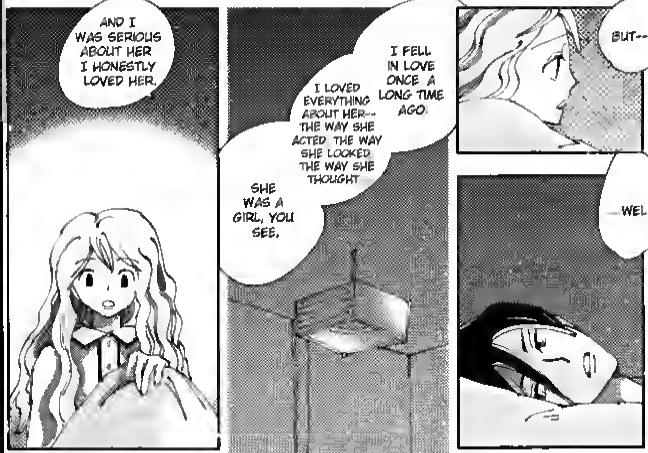
Touching, and being touched
I CAN'T EVEN HELP YOU...
YOU'RE BEING SELFISH!
IF YOU CAN'T EVEN STAND TO BE TOUCHED BY YOUR ROOMMATE, HOW'RE YOU EVER GOING TO HAVE ANY SORT OF RELATIONSHIP WITH ANYONE?!
I DON'T NEED YOUR HELP
!
—..
THEN
I'D JUST AS SOON DIE
IF YOU'RE GOING TO TAKE ME TO TASK FOR SOMETHING LIKE THAT
AREN'T PEOPLE SELFISH BY NATURE? AREN'T WE ARROGANT?
THAT'S SELFISH AND ARROGANT!
WELL IF YOU DON'T WANT MY HELP, DON'T EXPECT ME TO OFFER YOU A HAND
IF YOU EVER FALL OFF A CLIFF!
That's not what I'm saying!
THAT'S NOT...

SLIP
AHHH!
She's cool and composed even when she's arguing
and that's awesome, but
!
This comes as a surprise even to me,
but I think it would be all right with me
If Miyuki-san didn't reach out a hand to save me
I mean, I'd feel bad for her if she had to touch me,
so I don't think I'd mind if she didn't do it
Ever since I met her that day, at this very corner,
I've ..

she did reach out to me
But
—I'M SORRY— ABOUT BE- FORE—
LOOK AT YOU, ALL COVERED IN SCRATCHES—
YOU'RE SO CLUMSY, KURIKO.
YOU SHOULD GO STRAIGHT TO BED.
OKAY.


I WASN'T DISGUSTED
...
IT MUST'VE BEEN GROSS FOR YOU
I'M SORRY BUT I...
I MADE YOU TOUCH ME, AND WE FELL DOWN TOGETHER.
I'M NOT OBSESSED WITH GERMS OR ANYTHING.

I'M JUST A COWARD...
...? HUH.. ?


AND I WAS SERIOUS ABOUT HER I HONESTLY LOVED HER.
SHE WAS A GIRL, YOU SEE.
I LOVED EVERYTHING ABOUT HER... THE WAY SHE ACTED THE WAY SHE LOOKED THE WAY SHE THOUGHT
I FELL IN LOVE ONCE A LONG TIME AGO.
BUT--
...WELL,

SO I DECIDED
NEVER TO WEAR GLOVES OR MITTENS.
WE WENT TO A GIRLS' SCHOOL-- PEOPLE WERE PRETTY CLINGY THERE
WHEN WE'D HOLD HANDS, SHE'D REMARK ON HOW MY HANDS WERE COLD,
AND HOW THAT MADE THEM SEEM CLEANER. SHE LIKED THAT.
SHE LOOKED A LITTLE LIKE YOU, I THINK.
I LOST IT
WHEN IT CAME TIME TO SAY GOOD-BYE.
BUT SHE ENDED UP STUDYING ABROAD, BECAUSE THAT WORKED OUT BETTER FOR HER FAMILY.
LOOKED ABSOLUTELY TERRIFIED.
SHE LEFT WITHOUT EVEN SHAKING MY HAND GOOD-BYE
AND SHE ..
I TOLD HER HOW I FELT ABOUT HER.

I DECIDED I PREFERRED THAT
I COULD TELL MYSELF THAT WAS WHY SHE DIDN'T TOUCH ME.
WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO HAVE HANDS SO COLD THEY CAN'T EVEN TOUCH ANY-ONE?
AM I A MONSTER, ABLE TO KILL PEOPLE WITH MY CHILL?
I'VE ALWAYS
KEPT MY HANDS COLD FOR HER
I WANTED THEM TO BE COLD
ALL THE TIME EVERY-WHERE, FOR-EVER.
BUT THAT DIDN'T WORK OUT.
I KIND OF LIKED THAT
I THOUGHT THAT MAY-BE
I WAS CLOSE TO BEING A SNOW-WOMAN --A SNOW MONSTER.
WHEN YOU FIRST MET ME,
YOU SCREAMED AND CALLED ME A SNOW-WOMAN
—— AND THAT HURT.

What a horrible girl!
She took years off Miyuki-san's emotional life-span!
——...
IT MIGHT BE BEST
IF I DIDN'T TOUCH YOU AGAIN...
OH... BUT IF I REALLY AM ONE.
THEN WHEN I TOUCHED YOU BEFORE,
MAYBE IT SHORTENED YOUR LIFE-SPAN.
NO I'LL BE FINE!
WHEN YOU TOUCH ME...
SEE, FEEL THAT BLOOD PUMPING?
IT'S GETTING FASTER, MORE FULL OF LIFE.
YOU'RE EXTENDING MY LIFE-SPAN
IT FEELS MORE LIKE
HERE SEE?

I'M GOING TO KEEP ON
TAKING YOUR HAND
BECAUSE IT WILL EXTEND YOUR LIFE?
BECAUSE I LOVE YOU.
NOW THAT I KNOW HOW YOU FEEL AND ALL,
WELL, IT'S A BIT BE-LATED,

I THOUGHT IT MIGHT GET ME CLOSER TO BEING A SNOW-WOMAN.
BUT I DON'T CARE ABOUT THAT ANYMORE.
SO I'M CORRECTING IT FOR NOW
sqush
What?!
WELL, YOUR MOTHER STOPPED AFTER "MI"
AND THEN GOT IT WRONG, SO I JUST WENT ALONG WITH IT.
BUT MY NAME ISN'T REALLY MI-YUKI.
IT'S MIHARU!
*NOTE. LITERALLY "DEEP SPRING" (THE SEASON)
BUT
—.. WEIRD.
SORRY.
Because that name speaks of the coming spring
I GUESS I'LL CALL YOU THAT FROM NOW ON.
IT'S LOVELY!
REALLY?
Yeah!
THE END

The water from the melted snow must be nice and warm now...

Urbane

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男子禁制!! 少女と少女のヒミツの純愛コミック

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リリカル&ガンリー→少女の恋物語

殺したまき

Urbane Cute

三浦しをん

百合の花粉は落ちにくい

(cut:夏野よりイ)